

DEDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday,
25th November, 1992

Present:-

Councillors Oddy, Bowen, Clarke, Canning, Clinch, Mrs Garvey, Mrs Lee, Miss Hill, Reed, Mrs Swash, and Todd. County Councillor Matthews in attendance.

95/92 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Councillors Mace, O'Brien, Mrs Stevens and Croft.

96/92 Use of Capital Receipts in funding works of Traffic Calming.

Mr David Evans of the Oxfordshire County Council Engineer's Department explained the current position regarding the County Council providing finance for traffic calming, which was based entirely upon the accident records of stretches of highway. He commented that there had been a reduction in accidents since the opening of the motorway, an accident being an occurrence reported by the Police. There had been 3 accidents on the B4031 and 9 on the A423/A4260 over the last 5 years. Several had, however, recently occurred on Earls Lane and he was currently investigating this matter. On the subject of the Parish Council financing schemes he stated that the technical staff of the County were hard pressed and fully engaged on the County Programme and it may be that some time may elapse before Parish schemes could be fitted in, the alternative being for the Parish to employ its own consulting engineer. Mr Evans undertook to assess the remedial measures required for the 7 priority areas as assessed by the Parish Council and would inform the Clerk of the date of his on-site visit in order that 1 or 2 members may be present. No priority had yet been given to Earls Lane but this would be assessed for the future County Programme. He concluded by asking the Council to bear with him for a few more weeks for his overall assessment to be available. The Chairman thanked Mr Evans for his attendance and stated that the Council would eagerly await his recommendations.

97/92 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 28th October, 1992.

The minutes of the above meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

98/92 Matters arising from the minutes and not referred to later on the Agenda.

(a) Allotments - Cr Clinch reported that the contract had been let for the installation of the water supply to the Satin Lane Allotments and that Mr Ancil would complete the works by Christmas. Cr Bowen moved and Cr Mrs Garvey seconded that the rents be increased from 1st January, 1993 in accordance with



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the previously accepted report as follows:-

	per annum
½ Allotment	£5.00
1 Allotment	£10.00
2 Allotments	£17.50
3 Allotments	£25.00.

The motion was accepted unanimously.

(b) Stonepit. Further to minute 86/92 the Clerk reported that he had negotiated a new licence fee for the calendar year 1993 with Mr R West of 12, High Street, Deddington in the sum of £300. Resolved unanimously that the revised fee be accepted.

(c) Coat of Arms. It was proposed by Cr Miss Hill and seconded by Cr Mrs Garvey that the Council should proceed immediately with the application for a Grant of Arms, in a sum not exceeding £5,000. The motion was approved unanimously. The Chairman asked for a Councillor to oversee the application and all matters incidental to the obtaining of the Grant and it was agreed that Cr Bowen perform such duties.

(d) Windmill Centre. The Chairman reported that a meeting of users of the Centre had taken place at which each organisation had had the opportunity of stating its requirements. These could not, of course, be met from the funds available but the consultants with the Council's agreement, now have the task of making the best match of those needs from the funds available. A further meeting with the consultants was to be held on 30th November, 1992 followed by a meeting of the Sub-Committee. A letter regarding fees had been received from Messrs Woolerton Truscott which the Chairman asked to be circulated to each member, and an instalment of fees of £4,127.21 was approved.

99/92 Council Tax. The Chairman reported upon a seminar which he had attended at Bodicote House at which an up-date had been given on the information available. Certain details of the rebate scheme were still awaited from Whitehall, but it had been established that this Council's precept need not be forwarded until January, 1993. Cr Hill said that from her contacts in the village it would appear that many people will find themselves just outside the rebate scheme. The Chairman stated that in his view, as custodians of parish funds, it is necessary to learn the qualification for 100% rebate before determining the precept. A clinic on rebates could be held in the village by the District Council at a suitable time.

100/92 Precept 1993/94.

Cr Miss Hill proposed that there be no precept levied for the year 1993/94 only, which motion was seconded by Cr Mrs Swash. An amendment was moved by Cr Reed and seconded by the Chairman that the determination of the precept be deferred to the January meeting of the Council. The amendment was lost by 7 votes to 3. On the proposition being put it was approved by 8 votes to 2. Cr Clinch moved that the costs of financing the Council's revenue activities in 1993/94 be met from the



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allocation for contingencies. Cr Todd seconded and the proposition was agreed nem con. Letters were read to the Council from Cr Mrs Stevens and Mr Wm. Bidgood of 1, Church St relating to this matter prior to the aforementioned vote being taken.

101/92 Reports from Project Leaders.

(a) Grants Sub-Committee. Cr Todd reported upon the Sub-Committee meeting held on 20th November, 1992 as follows:-

Application No.27 - Deddington Wesleyan Reform Church. Recommended that it regrets it is unable to recommend a grant until such time as the structure is put into a good state of repair - (valuer's estimate £10,000-£12,000). In doing so it recognised that an additional hall in the centre of the village would be an asset and therefore should the structure be put into good order further dialogue could commence.

Application No.32 - Deddington and District Youth Club. Application for a grant of £500 to finance the purchase of equipment. Recommended that this initiative be commended and a grant of £500 be made subject to the equipment purchased reverting to the Council should the Club cease to exist. It was proposed by Cr Bowen and seconded by Cr Miss Hill and agreed unanimously that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee be approved.

(b) Planning Sub-Committee. Cr Miss Hill reported as follows:-
Application.

CHN 532/92 - Land between Tangiers & Home Farm, Clifton Rd. (Outline) Two dwellings with garages and access. Recommended that no observations be made.

Approval.

CHN LB 470/92 - Tuckers House, Market Place - Erection of fascia sign (retrospective).

A letter had been received from the Chief Planning Officer detailing the reasons why this Council's views in respect of the "Greencourts" development were not accepted as follows

1. No firmly established building line.
2. Development will not adversely affect the Vicarage of Greencourts to an unacceptable degree.
3. As area is not within the Conservation Area it would be unreasonable to attempt to require the developer to construct the whole estate in ironstone.
4. The movement of the development northwards would have resulted in a much greater landscape impact than the current proposal.

The recommendation was agreed and other matters noted.

(c) Property. Cr Miss Hill reported upon a site visit to the former St James Church at Clifton following Min. 91/92(g) For almost any community use additional parking was essential and enquiries were being made of the surrounding landowners. The District Valuer had also been asked for his report on the matter.



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(d) Town Hall and Public Conveniences. Certain members had not had the opportunity of reading the feasibility study and it was therefore agreed that consideration of the report be deferred to the next meeting. It was also agreed that the Clerk should write to the Secretary of the Deddington Charity Estates stating that this Council should be principals in the contracts

(e) Village Appraisal. Cr Todd informed Council that in the absence due to sickness of Cr Mace, Mr Marmion had been chairing the meetings. Matters discussed at the last meeting were as follows:- another Councillor required; £1,500 - £3000 required for implementation; shortness of notice of public meeting; now decisions have been taken is there a need for a Village Appraisal; possibility of quick questionnaire re allocations. Work was ongoing in putting together the questions to be asked and a request was made for the assistance of all Councillors in the distribution and collection of the appraisal forms. It was agreed that Cr Miss Hill be appointed as an additional council representative on this project group.

(f) Community Bus. The Clerk reported that the bus was being used 2 or 3 times per week and that an account had been opened at Archway Garage for the supply of petrol.

102/92 Office Accommodation

The licence in respect of the Council's office at Centrepoint expires on 31st December, 1992 and the owners had written offering the same facilities at an increased fee of £1150 plus VAT for the half year to 30th June 1993. The Clerk had subsequently negotiated a reduction to £1,100 plus VAT and it was unanimously agreed that the latter terms be accepted.

103/92 Village Steward.

The Clerk reported that the probationary employment of the Village Steward, Mr D Freeman, comes to an end on 31st December, 1992. Members were of the opinion that his employment had been a success and many comments of satisfaction were made by members. It was unanimously agreed that Mr Freeman be offered permanent employment with effect from 1st January, 1993 all other terms of his contract of employment to be unchanged.

104/92 Investment of the Council's Funds.

The Clerk reported that at the close of business on 24th November, 1992 the funds invested were as follows:-

£
1,040,000.00 at 8.5% fixed to 26th November, 1992
10,052.03 at 5.125% at 7 days notice
8,893.72 at 3.625% overnight
1,058,945.75

105/92 Appointment of Investment Sub-Committee.

A Sub-Committee comprising the Chairman, Cr Reed and the Clerk were appointed, charged with the duty of obtaining the best advice, locally or nationally, regarding the investment of



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the Council's Funds and to invest accordingly.

106/92 The following accounts were approved for payment:

		£
Southern Electric	- Electricity Town Hall	10.33
Milners of Banbury	- Paint	30.52
Goggin and Baker Ltd	- Envelopes	9.62
D H Blakey	- Salary and Expenses Nov.92	273.61
Imprest Account	- Reimbursement	873.43
Imprest Account		
D Freeman	- Wages 31/10,7,14,21/11	612.68
Centrepoint	- Photocopying etc	42.17
Deddington British Legion	- Wreath	20.00
Cherwell District Council	- Bus Tokens	34.00
G W Smith	- Education Grant	50.00
Archway Garage	- Repairs to heating system	54.63
B and Q	- Seat	59.95
		<u>873.43</u>

107/92 Correspondence.

(a) Letter from Mrs Dew on behalf of the Banbury and District Art Society requesting permission to hold an art exhibition in the Town Hall over Easter, 1993. Agreed that subject to the room being available (works of refurbishment) and the agreement of a suitable fee permission be granted.

(b) Letter from the District Council regarding the choosing of Street Names by Parish Councils. It stressed that the District Council has the responsibility for this function but that a new street name is usually considered to be acceptable provided that:- (i) it does not cause confusion by being similar to an existing street name in the locality;

(ii) it does not use the name of any local, national or international political figure, or the name of any person who has been alive during the 100 years prior to the date on which the street is being named.

(c) Letter from Mr G J Handley of Sentry House, Castle Street requesting the Council to meet in whole or part the costs of clearing the drainage ditch alongside the access pathway to the Castle Grounds. He states that the ownership of the land is uncertain though he was supplied with a copy of a letter from the Church Commissioners indicating that they were the owners. Members were of the view that the problems with surface water run-offs were not experienced prior to the building of Sentry House and, though appreciative of the works undertaken, resolved to make no contribution.

(d) Traffic Count. Mr Marmion had forwarded a copy of the results of two counts of the traffic through Chapel Square taken in October, 1985 and October, 1992. The results showed an estimated 28% increase in traffic between the two dates.



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One copy was passed to Mr Evans of the O.C.C. for use in connection with the traffic calming survey and it was resolved that Mr R Berridge be thanked for his efforts.

(e) Tree programme 1992/93. Mr Scott submitted the detail of the trees to be planted in this season, the sites recommended being Cosy Lane, Duns Tew Road, Steepness Hill, Old Ash Pit, Castle Street and Castle Grounds. The estimated total cost including VAT was £160.89. Resolved that Mr Scott be thanked for his efforts and that the programme be approved.

(f) A letter from Mr Young of Manor Barn, Clifton asking the Parish Council to persuade the County Council to maintain the footpath from Clifton to Deddington. It was reported that as part of the circular walk, this matter had recently been discussed with representatives of the County Council, who had stated that they would be prepared to make available scarified second-hand road materials, if this Council would clear the vegetation, and spread the material. The County would probably spray seal the surface at the end of the operation. Resolved that Mr Young be informed of the present position and that every effort be made to achieve a footpath at an early date.

108/92 Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Wednesday, 13th January, 1993 at the Town Hall commencing at 7.30 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Scott', is located at the bottom right of the page.